## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 01254 221144Z ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 899

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**EXDIS** 

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS SECRETARY)
SUBJ: SECRETARY VANCE'S TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST

REF (A) STATE 14976, (B) CAIRO 1169,

- 1. MET WITH FAHMY AT HIS APARTMENT THIS MORNING TO CONVEY ORAL MESSAGE ABOUT YOUR PROPOSED FEB 17-18 VISIT. (AS I HAVE CUSTOMARILY DONE, AT FAHMY'S REQUEST, I GAVE HIM THE MESSAGE IN WRITING, BUT MARKED "ORAL MESSAGE." HE HAS ASKED THAT MESSAGES BE GIVEN TO HIM IN THIS FORM SINCE HE INVARIABLY SEND THEM TO SADAT.)
- 2. FAHMY READ THE MESSAGE AND INDICATED THAT THE FEB 17-18 DATES WHICH YOU PROPOSE ARE QUITE AGREEABLE. SINCE HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT, I ASKED IF HE WISHED TO CHECK OUT THE DATES WITH SADAT FIRST. FAHMY SAID HE WOULD TELL THE PRESIDENT, BUT HE WAS SURE THAT ANY DATES CONVENIENT TO YOU ARE AGREEABLE TO THE EGYPTIAN SIDE.
- 3. I ALSO TOLD FAHMY THAT, ASSUMING ALL CONCERNED AGREE TO YOUR PROPOSED VISIT AND ITS TIMING, TRIP WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY THE WHITE HOUSE NOON, WASHINGTON TIME MONDAY, SECRET

**SECRET** 

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24 JAN. FAHMY SAID GOE WILL ALSO WISH TO ANNOUNCE OFFICIALLY YOUR UPCOMING VISIT TO EGYPT. I ASKED THAT IT NOT DO SO BEFORE MONDAY NIGHT SO THAT THE WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT CAN COME FIRST. FAHMY AGREED.

4. HOWEVER, TODAY'S AHRAM HAS STORY THAT DATES FOR A VISIT BY YOU TO EGYPT IN "MID-FEB" ARE CURRENTLY UNDER DISCUSSION

BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVTS. PAPER COULD HAVE GOTTEN THIS FROM FAHMY OR FROM SPATE OF ISRAELI OR WESTERN PRESS STORIES.

5. FRENCH CHARGE TELEPHONED POLCOUNSELOR THIS MORNING TO ASK ABOUT AHRAM STORY OF A MID-FEB VISIT. CHARGE INDICATED FRENCH FONMIN PLANS VISIT TO EGYPT SOME TIME BETWEEN FEB 17 AND 23. PRECISE DATES NOT YET FIXED. FAHMY MADE NO MENTION OF FRENCH FONMIN'S UPCOMING VISIT AND HIS AGREEMENT TO PROPOSED FEB 17-18 DATES SUGGESTS GOE ASSIGNS PRIORITY TO YOUR VISIT OVER THAT OF FRENCH FONMIN.

SECRET

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